

What is Claim d is:

1. An ergonomic pointing device manipulated by a finger of a user to initiate an action in a device, comprising:

a holder adapted to be mounted on at least a portion of the finger of the user;

a pointing implement; and

a means connected with the holder for mounting the pointing implement on the holder,

wherein the user manipulates the finger to urge the pointing implement into contact with the device to initiate the action.

2. The ergonomic pointing device as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the pointing implement further includes an end portion that tapers to a point and the user manipulates the finger to urge the end portion of the pointing implement into contact with the device to initiate the action.

3. The ergonomic pointing device as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the pointing implement comprises an implement selected from the group consisting of a stylus, a writing implement, a needle, a pin, a nail, and a tooth pick.

4. The ergonomic pointing device as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the pointing implement is urged into contact with a component carried by the device and the component is selected from the group consisting of a touch-sensitive display, a touch-sensitive cursor pad, and a switch.

5. The ergonomic pointing device as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the pointing implement is a selected one of fixedly mounted on the holder or removably mounted on the holder.

6. The ergonomic pointing device as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the pointing implement is movable in the holder.
7. The ergonomic pointing device as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the pointing implement is movable on the holder between an engaged position wherein the pointing implement is positioned to make the contact with the device to initiate the action and a non-engaged position wherein the pointing implement is not positioned to make the contact with the device.
8. The ergonomic pointing device as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the holder comprises a sleeve and the holder is mounted to the finger by inserting the finger through the sleeve.
9. The ergonomic pointing device as set forth in Claim 1, wherein a selected one or more of the holder, the pointing implement, or the means connected with the holder is disposable.
10. The ergonomic pointing device as set forth in Claim 1, wherein a selected one or more of the holder, the pointing implement, or the means connected with the holder is recyclable.
11. The ergonomic pointing device as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the ergonomic pointing device is sterilized.
12. The ergonomic pointing device as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the holder is mounted on the finger using an adhesive connected with the holder.
13. The ergonomic pointing device as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the holder is a component selected from the group consisting of a finger cot and a finger splint.

14. The ergonomic pointing device as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the means for mounting the pointing implement to the holder comprises a holster connected with the holder and adapted to receive the pointing implement.
15. The ergonomic pointing device as set forth in Claim 14, wherein the holster is a selected one of fixedly connected with the holder or removably connected with the holder.
16. The ergonomic pointing device as set forth in Claim 15, wherein the holster is fixedly connected with the holder using a fastener selected from the group consisting of an adhesive, a glue, a weld, a thread, a screw, and a nut and bolt.
17. The ergonomic pointing device as set forth in Claim 15, wherein the holster is removably connected with the holder using a fastener selected from the group consisting of **VELCRO**, a snap, a button, a clip, and a magnet.
18. The ergonomic pointing device as set forth in Claim 14, wherein the pointing implement is movable in the holster between an engaged position wherein the pointing implement is positioned to make the contact with the device to initiate the action and a non-engaged position wherein the pointing implement is not positioned to make the contact with the device.
19. The ergonomic pointing device as set forth in Claim 14, wherein the pointing implement is a selected one of fixedly connected with the holster or removably connected with the holster.
20. The ergonomic pointing device as set forth in Claim 14, wherein the holster further includes a resistance element in contact with the holster and the pointing implement and operative to retain the pointing implement in an arbitrary position in the holster until the user moves the pointing implement to a new position in the holster.

21. The ergonomic pointing device as set forth in Claim 14, wherein the pointing implement further includes a resistance element in contact with the pointing implement and the holster and operative to retain the pointing implement in an arbitrary position in the holster until the user moves the pointing implement to a new position in the holster.

22. The ergonomic pointing device as set forth in Claim 14 and further comprising:

a means for locking the pointing implement in a user preferred position in the holster.

23. The ergonomic pointing device as set forth in Claim 14, wherein a selected one or more of the holder, the pointing implement, or the holster is disposable.

24. The ergonomic pointing device as set forth in Claim 14, wherein a selected one or more of the holder, the pointing implement, or the holster is recyclable.

25. The ergonomic pointing device as set forth in Claim 14, wherein the holder is mounted on the finger using an adhesive connected with the holder.

26. The ergonomic pointing device as set forth in Claim 14, wherein the ergonomic pointing device is sterilized.

27. The ergonomic pointing device as set forth in Claim 14, wherein the pointing implement is movable in the holster.